DARK HORSE COMICS

Manga

SHADOW LADY: THE EYES OF A STRANGER 1 OF 5

$2.50 US
$3.75 CAN

MASAKAZU KATSURA'S

SHADOW LADY

THE EYES OF A STRANGER

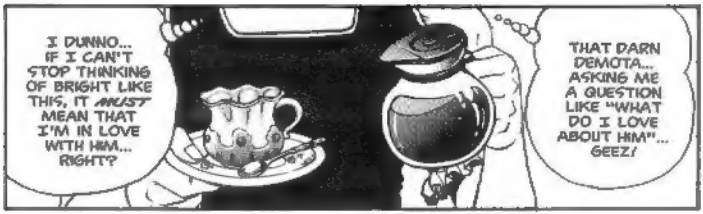
DIRECT SALES
00811
7 61568 80074 1

MASAKAZU KATSURA

AIMI'S CASE
CAFE
SO... ANY IDEAS ABOUT HOW I COULD MAKE MYSELF A MORE INTERESTING WOMAN?
NOPE.
WHAK
FDD
C'MON, DEMOTA!! WILL YOU AT LEAST LOOK AT ME WHEN I'M TALKING TO YOU?!
WHY? YOU'RE ALWAYS BABBLING ON ABOUT "BRIGHT THIS" AND "BRIGHT THAT." I MEAN, WHAT IS IT ABOUT HIM THAT YOU LOVE SO MUCH?
HUH?
HER NAME IS AIMI KOMORI, AND HER AGE IS EIGHTEEN.

WHAT DO I LOVE ABOUT HIM?
WELL, IT'S BECAUSE... UM... THAT IS... ER...
HMM... I WONDER WHY IT IS...?
SHE LOST BOTH OF HER PARENTS AT THE AGE OF THREE... AND UNTIL RECENTLY, WHEN SHE MET DE-MO, SHE LIVED IN AN ORPHANAGE-- A SAD AND LONELY LIFE.
LOOK... INSTEAD OF OBSESSING ABOUT SOME GUY YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY YOU LOVE...
...MAYBE IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU JUST FORGOT ABOUT HIM, HUH?
POOR AIMI HAS NEVER KNOWN THE COMFORT AND SAFETY OF BEING PART OF A FAMILY.
...
...
OH, NO! LOOK AT THE TIME!
EVEN THOUGH SHE IS A THIEF, SHE HAS NEVER STOLEN ANYTHING OF GREAT VALUE. (ALTHOUGH DE-MO STOLE A SOLID GOLD STATUE, ONCE.)
BY THE WAY, IF YOU'RE DONE DROOLING OVER THIS, I WANT YOU TO GO RETURN IT!
SORRY I'M SO LATE!
CAFE
CHOCOLAT MENIER
SO IN ORDER TO MAKE A LIVING, SHE WORKS AS A WAITRESS IN THE CAFE ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF HER APARTMENT BUILDING.

THE BANK ROBBER WHO STRUCK THE GRAY CITY BANK THIS MORNING IS STILL AT LARGE.
USING SECURITY CAMERA TAPES, THE POLICE HAVE IDENTIFIED THE SUSPECT AS ALEX HOGAN, WANTED IN SEVERAL....
ALEX HOGAN
BRIGHT MUST BE REALLY BUSY, NOW.
I PROBABLY WON'T GET A CHANCE TO SEE HIM TODAY...
AWW, THE COFFEE'S BEEN DONE FOR AGES! YOU MIND TAKING IT OUT TO THE CUSTOMERS...?
HUH?
OH!! Y-YES, SIR!

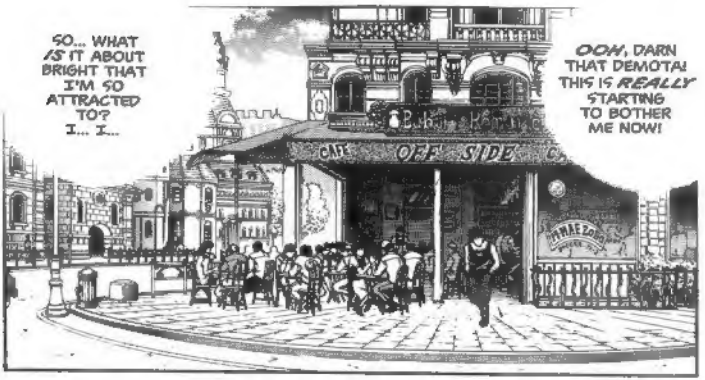

I DUNNO... IF I CAN'T STOP THINKING OF BRIGHT LIKE THIS, IT *MUST* MEAN THAT I'M IN LOVE WITH HIM... RIGHT?
THAT DARN DEMOTA... ASKING ME A QUESTION LIKE "WHAT DO I LOVE ABOUT HIM"... GEEZ!

I WONDER IF PEOPLE IN LOVE USUALLY KNOW HOW TO ANSWER THAT...?
HEY HEY *HEY!*
BLUB BLUB
SPLASH!

AH!
OH MY GOSHI I... I'M *SO* SORRY!

YOU'RE JUST NOT WITH IT TODAY, AIMI. IT'S A BIT EARLY FOR YOUR BREAK, BUT WHY DON'T YOU GO TAKE IT NOW, ANYWAY?
...
...

BUT...


SO... WHAT *IS* IT ABOUT BRIGHT THAT I'M SO ATTRACTED TO? I... I...
OOH, DARN THAT DEMOTA! THIS IS *REALLY* STARTING TO BOTHER ME NOW!
CAFE
OFF SIDE

IF ONLY I COULD SEE HIM TODAY, I FEEL LIKE I'D KNOW THE REASON...
MMCH MMCH
IS THIS SEAT TAKEN?
NO... GO AHEAD.
SAY ...?
HUH?
UP!
SAK
AEE!
UH... HI THERE.
AH?!

WH-WH-WHAT IN THE WORLD IS BRIGHT DOING HERE?! THIS IS JUST TOO SUDDEN!
OH, GOD... WHY DIDN'T I WEAR SOMETHING CUTER TODAY...?!
....
BUT STILL! THIS IS THE CHANCE I'VE BEEN WANTING... NOW I CAN FIND OUT WHY I'M IN LOVE WITH HIM!
GULP
C'MON AMI, HANG IN THERE! DON'T CHICKEN OUT AGAIN!
.....
...?
H... H... H- HELLO!

WOW!
YOU FINALLY TALKED TO ME! THAT MAKES ME FEEL A LOT BETTER.
EVERY TIME I TRIED TO TALK TO YOU BEFORE, YOU RAN AWAY... SO I WAS STARTING TO THINK YOU DIDN'T LIKE ME OR SOMETHING.
I... I SEE...
YES, YES! HE WAS ACTUALLY THINKING ABOUT ME!
CAN IT BE THAT HE'S GOT FEELINGS FOR ME, TOO?!
COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T REALLY INTRODUCED MYSELF YET, HAVE I?
HUH?
OH... N-NO.

MY NAME IS HONDA... BRIGHT HONDA.
I KNOW ...!
I... I'M AIMI K-KOMORI...
READY TO ORDER ...?
TUNA SALAD ON RYE AND A CAFÉ AU LAIT, PLEASE.
THAT'S RIGHT! THIS IS MY CHANCE TO TAKE A CLOSE LOOK... AND TRY TO FIGURE OUT WHAT IT IS ABOUT HIM THAT I LOVE!
...
IS IT SIMPLY... HIS LOOKS?
I MEAN, IF I HAD TO SAY, HE IS MY TYPE.
IS IT JUST THAT? NO... I DON'T THINK SO... THERE MUST BE SOMETHING ELSE ABOUT HIM THAT ATTRACTED ME.

FLASH
OH, NO!
HE CAUGHT ME LOOKING AT HIM! HOW EMBARRASSING!
AIMI...
DON'T TELL ME...
YOU...
AH?! D-DID HE SEE HOW I FELT ABOUT HIM?!
I MEAN, HE IS A DETECTIVE, SO... OH, GOD! WH-WHAT SHOULD I DO?
WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY SOMETHING ...?
HUH?!

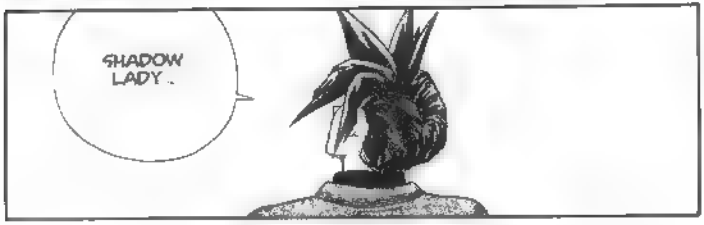
YOU MUST REALLY LIKE TUNA SALAD
HERE, I'LL GIVE YOU HALF
BOM
HERE
GEE...
TH-THANKS
THANK GOODNESS.. HE'S NOT TOO SHARP
AH?!
OH, NO! THIS MAKES ME LOOK LIKE I WAS STARING AT HIS FOOD LIKE SOME STARVING DOG!
W-WAIT, THAT'S NOT IT! I WASN'T LOOKING AT YOUR SANDWICH!
NOW WHAT, YOU DUMMY?! YOU CAN'T TELL HIM THE TRUTH!!
I...
UM
FWOD
EEK!
SKRASH
OHH.. NOOO.. HIS IMAGE OF ME IS RUINED! MY.. MY LIFE IS OVER..

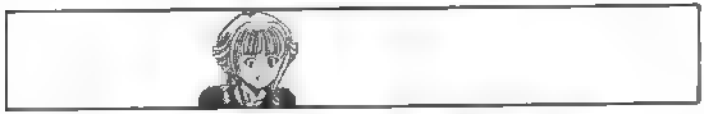
SO MUCH FOR MY LOVE LIFE
!?
THERE YOU GO ARE YOU OKAY ?
HE'S SO KIND!

WAS IT HIS KINDNESS THAT I WAS DRAWN TO ? FROM THAT VERY FIRST DAY. ?
SAY, AIMI... DON'T YOU HAVE TO GET GOING?
UM, . N-NOT YET WH--WHAT ABOUT YOU? YOUR JOB...?
SORRY BOSS !
MAYBE. THAT MIGHT BE IT BUT I THINK THERE'S SOMETHING MORE.
NAW, IT'S MY DAY OFF TODAY
SAY.. WANT TO GO FOR A WALK?
S S. SURE.
AAH!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
AAAHH
YOU KNOW I HAVEN'T BEEN THIS RELAXED IN A LONG TIME.
ENOUGH, AIMI! THIS WON'T GO ANYWHERE JUST BY WISHING AND DREAMING!
YOU HAVE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS PERFECT OPPORTUNITY!
YOU CAN DO IT, KIDDO! RIGHT NOW! JUST TELL HIM!

OKAY, AIMI! GO FOR IT! TELL HIM THAT YOU LOVE HIM!
NOW!

DO IT!
DO IT!!


SHADOW LADY..



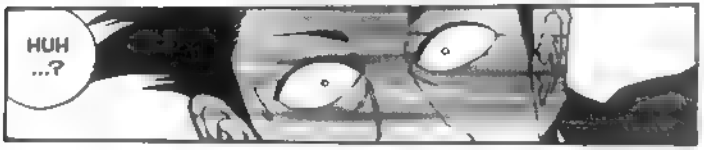
WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE SHE'S DOING RIGHT NOW..?

I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE WHAT SHE LOOKS LIKE DURING THE DAY
DOES SHE WORK? OR MAYBE SHE'S A STUDENT? HEH... IT'D BE FUNNY IF SHE ALWAYS DRESSED LIKE THAT AND JUST HID DURING THE DAY
HA HA HA
"LOOK INSTEAD OF OBSESSING ABOUT SOME GUY YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY YOU LOVE, MAYBE IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU JUST FORGOT ABOUT HIM, HUH?"

FORGET IT. AWW THAT WAS THE HAPPIEST HE'D ACTED ALL DAY I GUESS YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR SHADOW LADY
WHO KNOWS? MAYBE SHE MIGHT.
DO YOU ALWAYS THINK ABOUT SHADOW LADY THAT MUCH...?
HUH..?
DOES WHAT SHADOW LADY IS LIKE IN REAL LIFE INTRIGUE YOU THAT MUCH?
BRIGHT'S HEART IS FILLED WITH HER. I NEVER HAD A CHANCE
THEN I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO TELL YOU
IF SO.
THEN I MIGHT AS WELL
THE TRUTH IS, I--

STOP, THIEF!

BWA HAW HAW! CAN'T TOUCH ME NOW, COPPERS!
WHOO
EEK!


HUH ...?

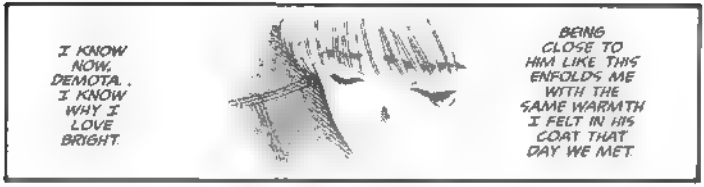
OH..!
WHOSH

HE TAKES AWAY MY LONELINESS...

HE MAKES ME FEEL SO SAFE...

I'VE NEVER HAD SOMEONE TO PROTECT ME, EVER BEFORE...

YES... THAT'S WHY I WANT BRIGHT TO BE WITH ME... FOREVER AND ALWAYS.


I KNOW NOW, DEMOTA. I KNOW WHY I LOVE BRIGHT.
BEING CLOSE TO HIM LIKE THIS ENFOLDS ME WITH THE SAME WARMTH I FELT IN HIS COAT THAT DAY WE MET.

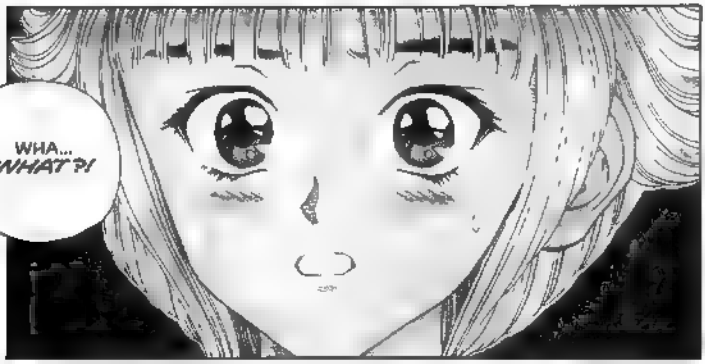
NEXT: "THE OMEN"...!

DARK HORSE COMICS
Manga
SHADOW LADY: THE EYES OF A STRANGER 2 OF 5
MASAKAZU KATSURA'S
SHADOW LADY
THE EYES OF A STRANGER
DIRECT SALES
MASAKAZU KATSURA

THE
OMEN

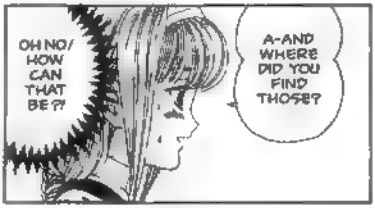
CAFE
OH, MAN-- MY LEGS FEEL LIKE LEAD!
S-SEE YOU MUST BE REALLY B-BUSY
YEAH, WELL, I GUESS I SHOULDN'T COMPLAIN-- I LOVE MY JOB
IT'S A GOOD KIND OF TIRED, ANYWAY
R-REALLY? THAT'S G-GOOD
OH, I'M SO HAPPY I CAN TALK TO BRIGHT LIKE THIS, NOW!
S-SO UM WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE?
HMM. LET'S SEE HOW ABOUT THE BEST CAKE AND ESPRESSO YOU'VE GOT? YOU PICK!

ONE SLICE OF "DEATH BY CHOCOLATE" AND A DOUBLE SHOT OF MOCHA-JAVA, BOSS!
COMIN' RIGHT UP!
BY THE WAY, AIMI.. WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THIS?
HMM?
"SHADOW LADY IS" ...?!
WHAT DO YOU THINK COMES NEXT?
WH.. WHERE DID THAAT COME FROM?!
"SHADOW LADY IS"...
AIMI.


WHA...
WHAT?!

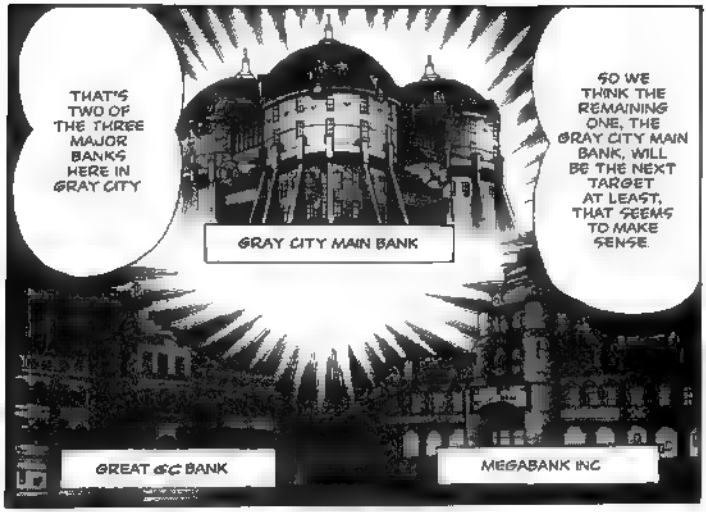
HUH?
NO, I MEAN IT MIGHT END WITH A NAME LIKE THAT-- JUST FOR EXAMPLE!
O-OH... YES
HA HA
WHEWW... SCARED ME HALF TO DEATH!

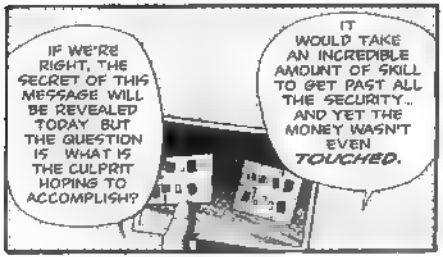
IF SO, IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THE PERSON WHO MADE THIS KNOWS SHADOW LADY'S SECRET IDENTITY


A-AND WHERE DID YOU FIND THOSE?
OH NO! HOW CAN THAT BE?!

THE FIRST NOTE WAS FOUND TWO DAYS AGO AT GREAT GC BANK...

...AND THIS ONE HERE WAS FOUND AT MEGA-BANK.
AMAZINGLY, BOTH WERE PASTED UP INSIDE THE LOCKED MAIN VAULTS!


THAT'S TWO OF THE THREE MAJOR BANKS HERE IN GRAY CITY
GRAY CITY MAIN BANK
SO WE THINK THE REMAINING ONE, THE GRAY CITY MAIN BANK, WILL BE THE NEXT TARGET AT LEAST, THAT SEEMS TO MAKE SENSE.
GREAT &C BANK
MEGABANK INC

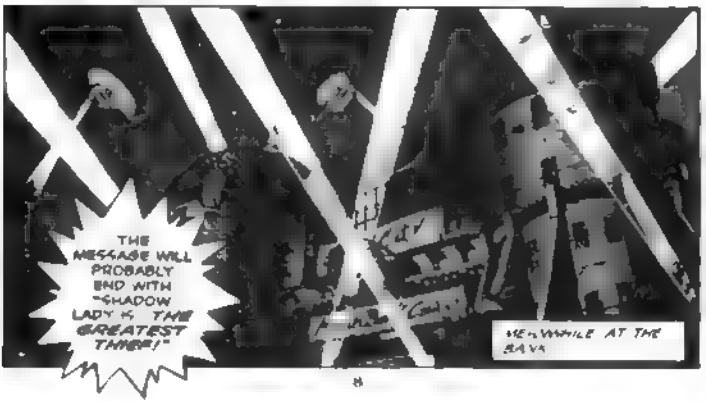

IF WE'RE RIGHT, THE SECRET OF THIS MESSAGE WILL BE REVEALED TODAY BUT THE QUESTION IS WHAT IS THE CULPRIT HOPING TO ACCOMPLISH?
IT WOULD TAKE AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF SKILL TO GET PAST ALL THE SECURITY.. AND YET THE MONEY WASN'T EVEN TOUCHED.

CHIEF DETECTIVE DORY IS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT IT'S ALL A TRICK BEING PLAYED BY SHADOW LADY, BUT..

I DON'T CARE HOW MANY TIMES YOU ASK! WE CAN'T TELL YOU THAT!!
GRAY CITY POLICE
WHY NOT?!
FINE! FORGET IT. THEN!
I'LL FIND HIM MYSELF! JUST YOU WAIT!
AH, WELL... GUESS IT'S BACK TO THAT FLEABAG HOTEL AGAIN FOR AT LEAST ONE MORE NIGHT... SIGH.

AWW, MAN, I'M ON DUTY AGAIN TONIGHT TO WATCH THE BANKING CENTER LOOKS LIKE ALL OF US ARE GETTING SENT, SO YOU'RE GONNA GET CALLED IN, TOO
THAT SUCKS!
WHAT A STUPID WASTE OF TIME IT'S PROBABLY GONNA BE SHADOW LADY SCREWING US AROUND, JUST LIKE THE CHIEF SAID
DEMOTA! IT BETTER NOT BE YOU DOING THIS!
WH-WHY WOULD I DO THAT?!
BUT... THEN THAT MEANS SOMB OTHER EXPERT THIEF IS OUT THERE BESIDES ME
I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT, KIDDO THERE'S NO WAY THEY COULD KNOW YOUR IDENTITY IT'S JUST A BLUFF
I DUNNO. AWFUL LOT OF WORK FOR A BLUFF
AND WHAT IF THAT MESSAGE REALLY DOES END
WITH THE IDENTITY OF SHADOW LADY?
NO!! I JUST CAN'T RISK IT!!
LET'S GO, DE-MO!

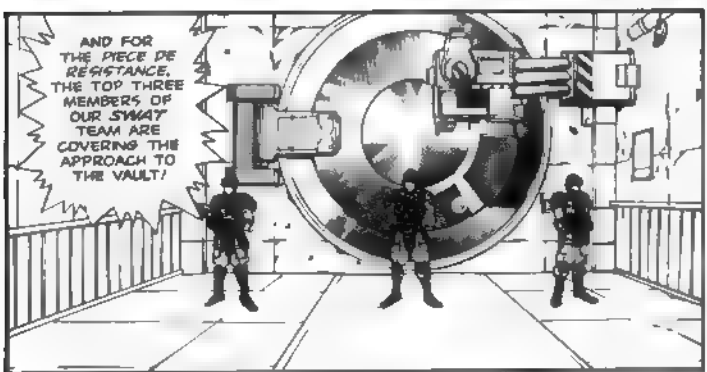
MY NAME IS BEING USED, AND MY SECRET IDENTITY MAY BE AT STAKE!
NO MATTER *WHAT* IT TAKES, I'M GOING TO SETTLE THIS MATTER *TONIGHT!*

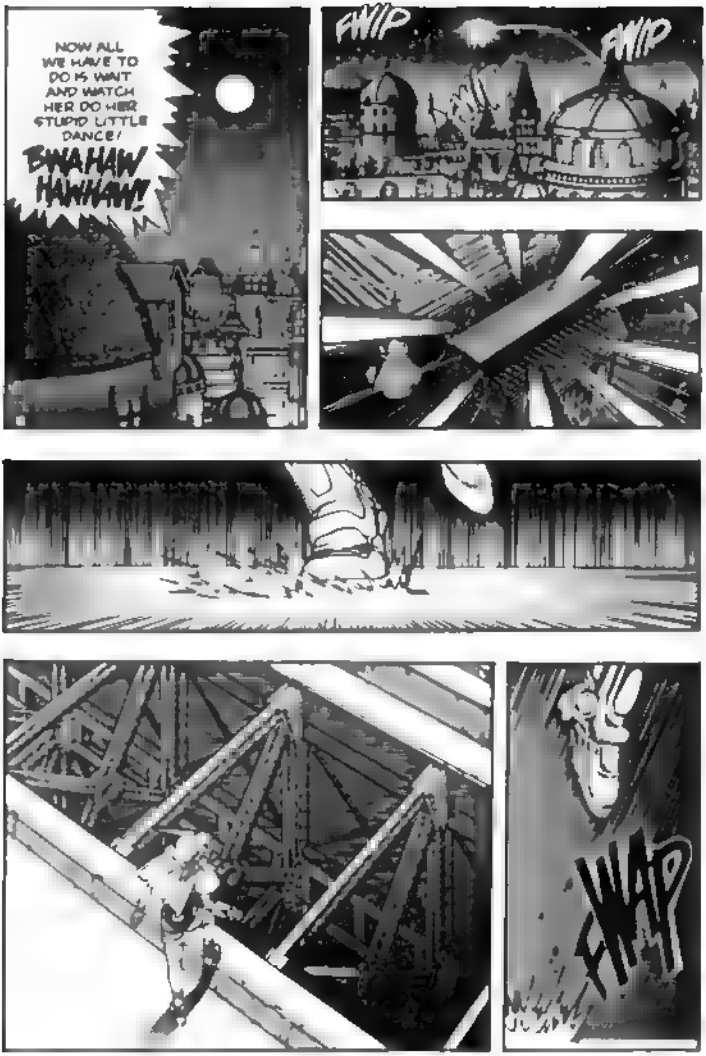

THE MESSAGE WILL PROBABLY END WITH "SHADOW LADY IS *THE GREATEST THERE!*"
MEANWHILE AT THE BAR

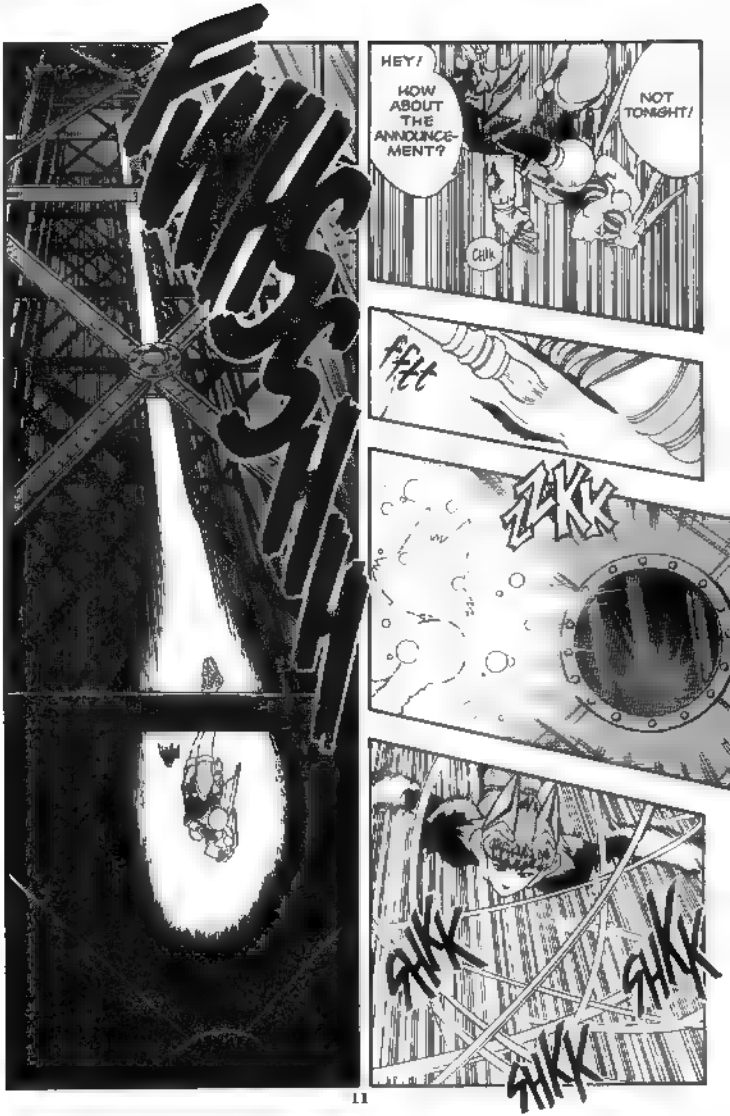
THIS IS UNDOUBTEDLY AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF HER INTENT TO MAKE THIS THE *FINAL MOCKERY* AGAINST OUR POLICE FORCE!
I-I MEAN
SHE'S LETTING US KNOW THAT ALL THE TIMES SHE STRUCK BEFORE WERE JUST *WARM-UPS*, AND NOW SHE'LL BEGIN TAKING *REAL* VALUABLES!

♦ BANK PRESIDENT

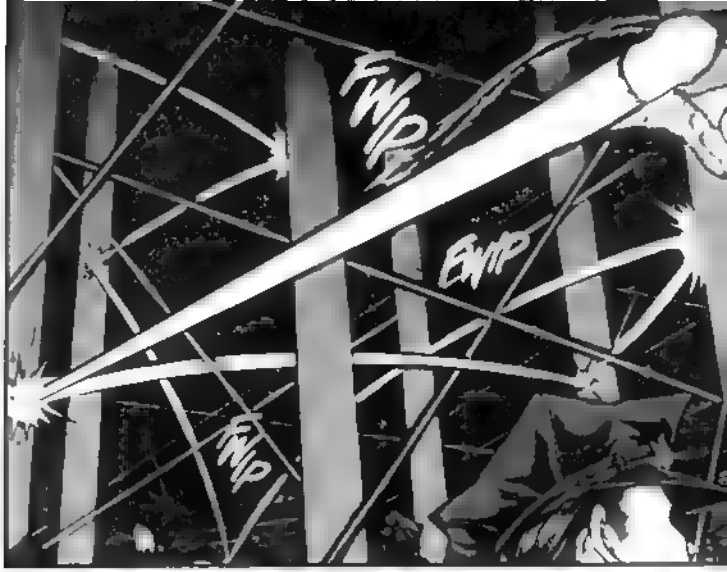
BUT OUR SECURITY IS *PERFECT!* ALL VENTS AND CONDUITS HAVE BEEN BLOCKED! YOU *CAN'T* GET TO THE VAULT WITHOUT PASSING THOUGH THE HALLS ON THE FIRST FLOOR--
--AND ALL THOSE HALLS ARE COVERED WITH A NETWORK OF LASER BEAMS... AND CRAWLING WITH POLICE OFFICERS!

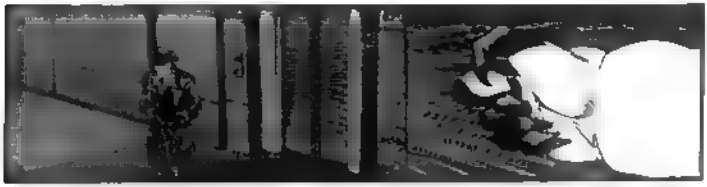


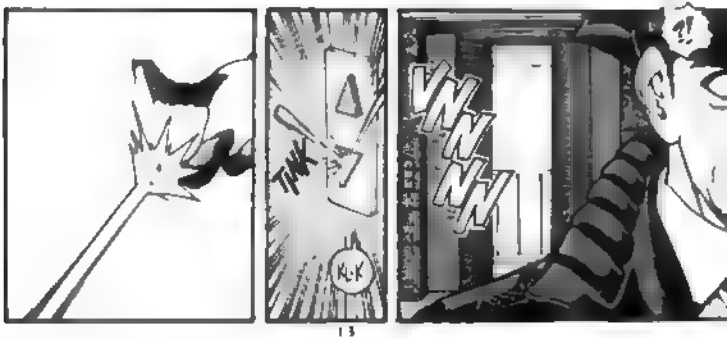

NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS WAIT AND WATCH HER DO HER STUPID LITTLE DANCE!
BWAHAW HAWHAW!
FWIP
FWIP
FWAP

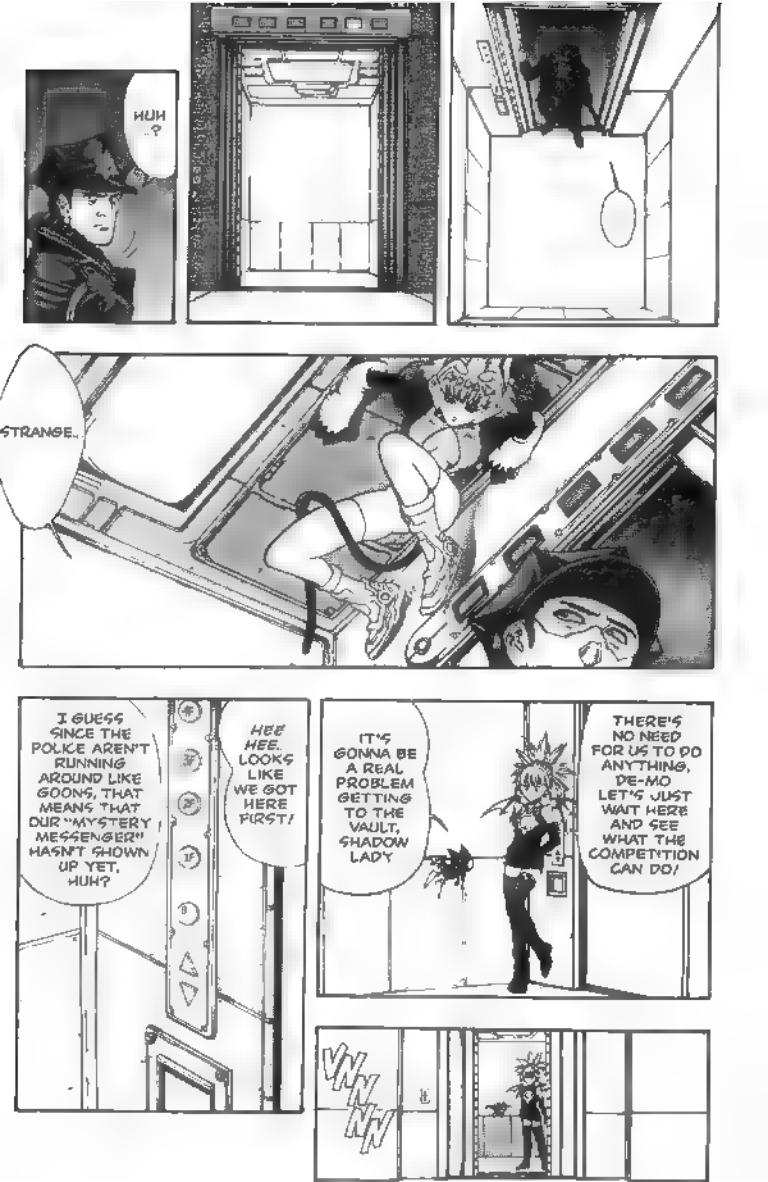

FUCK SHIT
HEY! HOW ABOUT THE ANNOUNCE-MENT?
NOT TONIGHT!
Chik
fftt
ZKK
SHKK
SHKK
SHKK

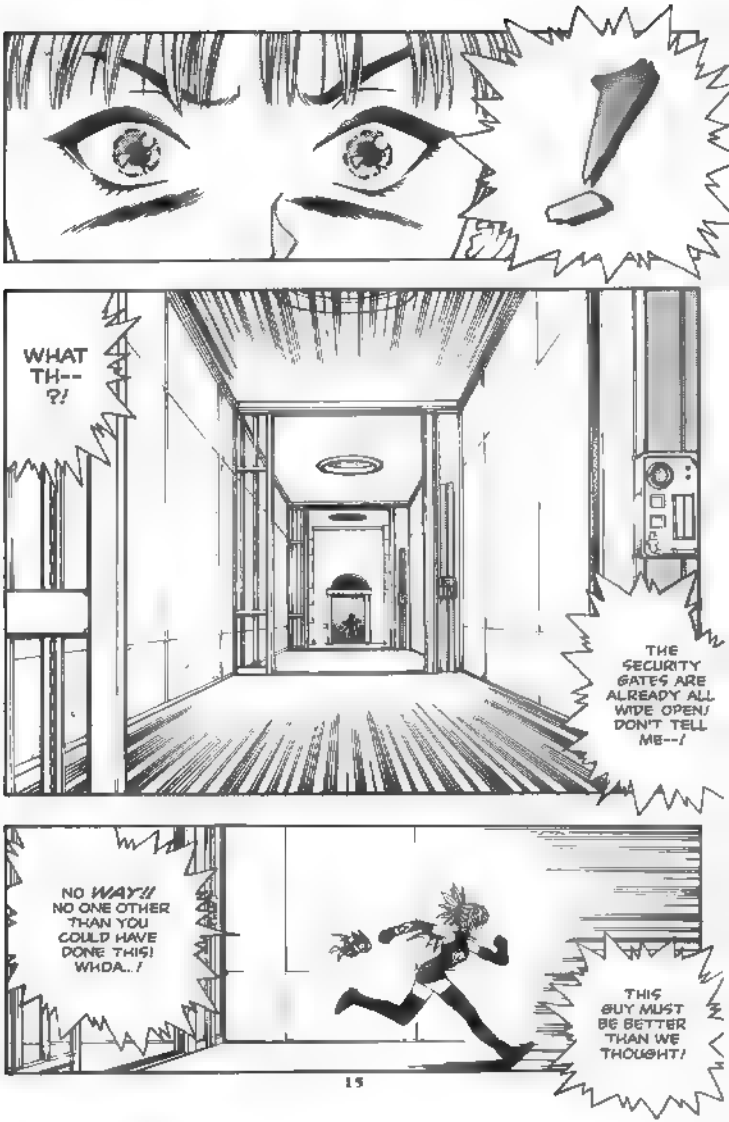
KRASH
SWAP
HYP!!

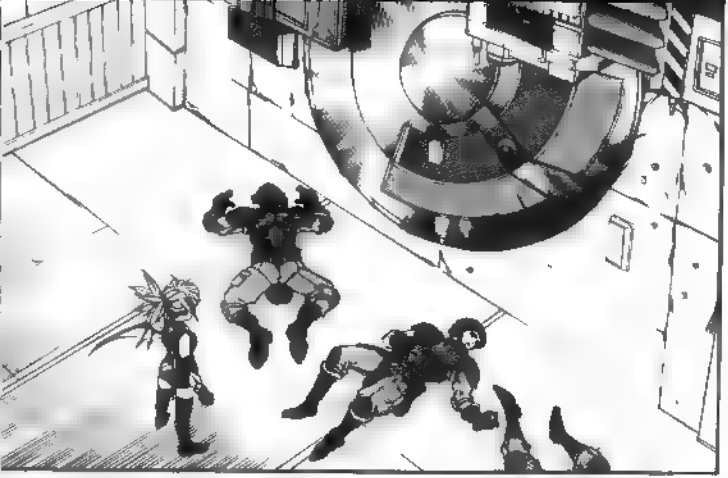

FWIP
BWIP
FWIP



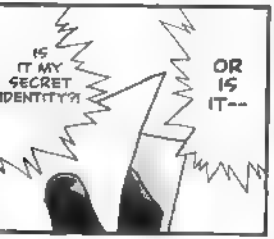

TINK
KLK
VNNNNN


HUH ..?
STRANGE..
I GUESS SINCE THE POLICE AREN'T RUNNING AROUND LIKE GOONS, THAT MEANS THAT OUR "MYSTERY MESSENGER" HASN'T SHOWN UP YET. HUH?
HEE HEE.. LOOKS LIKE WE GOT HERE FIRST!
IT'S GONNA BE A REAL PROBLEM GETTING TO THE VAULT, SHADOW LADY
THERE'S NO NEED FOR US TO DO ANYTHING, DE-MO LET'S JUST WAIT HERE AND SEE WHAT THE COMPETITION CAN DO!
VNNNN


!
WHAT TH--?!
THE SECURITY GATES ARE ALREADY ALL WIDE OPEN! DON'T TELL ME--!
NO WAY!! NO ONE OTHER THAN YOU COULD HAVE DONE THIS! WHOA..!
THIS GUY MUST BE BETTER THAN WE THOUGHT!



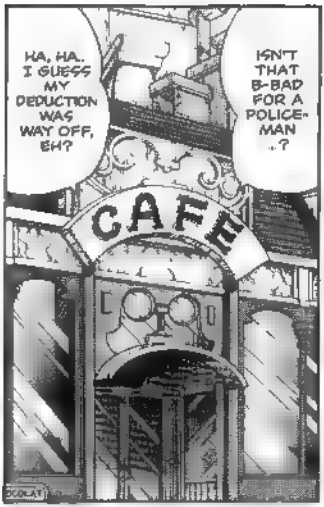
SMARTASS!
FWAP
OKAY!
LET'S SEE WHAT COMES NEXT!


IS IT MY SECRET IDENTITY?!
OR IS IT--

UP!

FAP

NO. 2
"SHADOW LADY IS...
NO. 2"
...?!
TH-THIS...
IT'S A CHAL-LENGE!


HA, HA. I GUESS MY DEDUCTION WAS WAY OFF, EH?
ISN'T THAT B-BAD FOR A POLICE-MAN ..?
CAFE

C'MON, AIMI.. BE NICE, NOW! BESIDES, AT THIS RATE, I MAY NOT BE A COP FOR TOO MUCH LONGER..
HUH? WHY? ARE Y-YOU QUITTING?

WELL, IT'S MORE LIKE BEING *FIRED* THAN *QUITTING*. I KEEP DISOBEYING ORDERS, ETCETERA.
BUT I JUST CAN'T WAIT AROUND ANYMORE I *HAVE* TO CATCH SHADOW LADY I MEAN, THAT'S THE WHOLE REASON I CAME TO THIS CITY

I.. I SEE.
OH, NO.. BRIGHT'S MORE DETERMINED THAN EVER BEFORE I... I MAY ACTUALLY GET CAUGHT NEXT TIME../

AND SHADOW LADY HAS SOME SORT OF STRANGE RIVAL OUT THERE, TOO. WHAT AM I GOING TO DO..?
Dings Dingg
!
COME IN! HAVE A SEAT ANY--

YAHOO!
I FINALLY FOUND YOU, MR B!!
YOW!
YOU?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
HUM? WHO IS THIS GIRL?!
WH WHAT'S GOING ON?!

NEXT "LIME" /

DARK HORSE COMICS

CLAMP

SHADOW LADY
THE EYES OF A STRANGER
3 OF 5

$2.50 US
$3.75 CAN

SHADOW LADY

MASAKAZU KATSURA

DIRECT SALES

61568 98074 01231

LIME

I'VE WANTED TO SEE YOU AGAIN SO MUCH, MR. B!
GET OFF, YOU LOON!!

WH- WHO IS THAT GIRL?!
COULD SHE BE BRIGHT'S LOVER?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
I'M GONNA MOVE IN WITH YOU, SILLY!
WAAH!
I I WAS RIGHT..
DOOM!
"MOVE IN"?! I'D RATHER HAVE A NEST OF POISONOUS RATTLE-SNAKES LIVING WITH ME!!
HUH?!

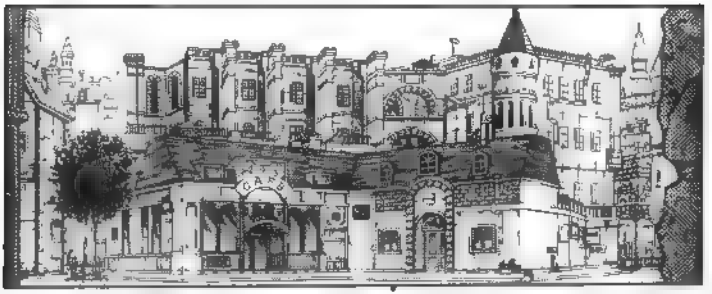
COME HERE, YOU!
HEY!
WHA--?!
SORRY, AIMI! I'LL HAVE TO TAKE A RAIN CHECK ON THE COFFEE AND CAKE
O-OKAY
SLAM
DIDJA SCOPE OUT MY HAIR, MR B? I STYLED IT KINDA LIKE YOURS! I CALL IT "BRIGHT LITE"...! COOL, HUH? MY FRIENDS SAID--
GO HOME. RIGHT NOW

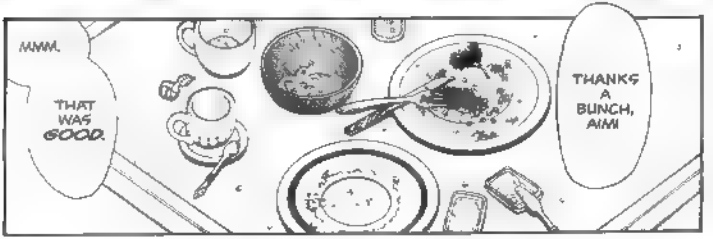
I WON'T!
I ALREADY QUIT SCHOOL AND LEFT HOME. I CAN'T GO BACK NOW!
OH, YES YOU CAN! JUST HAUL YOUR BUTT HOME AND APOLOGIZE.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE ACTING SO COLD WHEN WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER FOR...
WAIT A SEC!!
DON'T TELL ME-- ARE YOU DATING ANOTHER GIRL?! HOW DARE YOU, WHEN YOU HAVE ME?!
HAHA?

I'LL BET IT'S HER, ISN'T IT?!
!
ULP!
EEP!
FWHP
GIVE ME A BREAK, OKAY?!
YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'D BE FALLING IN SOME OTHER GIRL, MR. B--

—BECAUSE THE ONLY GIRL YOU CARE ABOUT IS SHADOW LADY!
I CAME HERE TO GET HER OUT OF YOUR LIFE!
AND I'M NOT GOING TO GO HOME UNTIL I DO!!

YOU DO WHAT YOU WANT
H-HEY! WAIT!
WHY? SHALL I WALK YOU BACK TO THE BUS STATION, LITTLE RUNAWAY ?
Jerk!
B-BUT.. I'M TOTALLY BROKE! AND I HAVEN'T EATEN SINCE MORNING!
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE JUST GOING TO ABANDON ME HERE? A POOR MAIDEN IN DISTRESS?!
BRIGHT, YOU JERK!
WHAT'S UP, AIM ?
UM, SIR ?
IS IT OKAY IF I LEAVE EARLY TODAY?

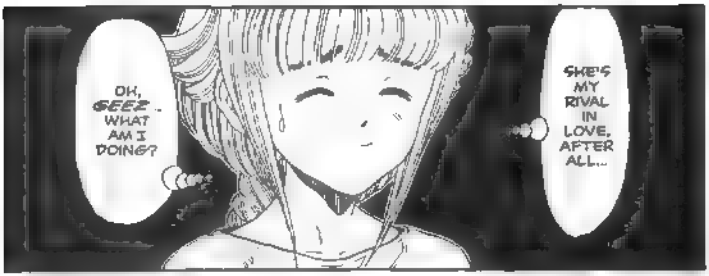



MMM.
THAT WAS GOOD.
THANKS A BUNCH, AIMI

WOW YOU'RE A REALLY GOOD COOK!
AW, YOU WERE JUST HUNGRY, THAT'S ALL.

UMM.. Y YOU CAN STAY HERE TONIGHT, IF YOU WANT

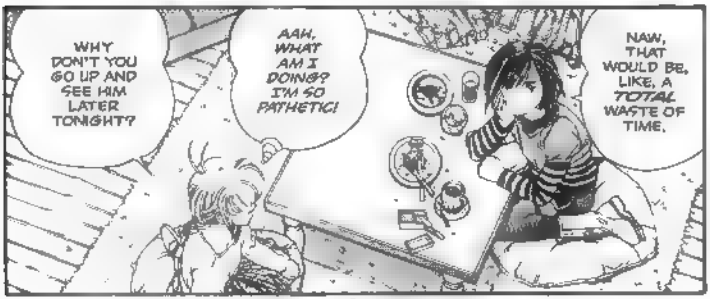
Y-YES
REALLY? CAN I? YOU SURE?!


OH, GEEZ... WHAT AM I DOING?
SHE'S MY RIVAL IN LOVE, AFTER ALL...

SHADOW LADY HAS A MYSTERIOUS NEW RIVAL
AND NOW EVEN I HAVE ONE
Sigh~... WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?
SAY..

DO YOU KNOW WHERE MR B LIVES..?
HUH?

OH, BRIGHT LIVES IN THE APARTMENT RIGHT ABOVE ME
NO WAY!


WHY DON'T YOU GO UP AND SEE HIM LATER TONIGHT?
AAH, WHAT AM I DOING? I'M SO PATHETIC!
NAW, THAT WOULD BE, LIKE, A TOTAL WASTE OF TIME.

UMM, B-BEFORE BRIGHT CAME HERE TO GRAY CITY
WELL um, ER.
...WERE YOU TWO..
L-LOVERS ?
YEP!
AAAGH! I KNEW I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED!!
WELLLLL THAT'S WHAT I'D LIKE TO SAY, ANYWAY
HE NEVER SAW ME LIKE THAT, THE BIG GOOF!
IT WAS JUST A COUPLE OF PEOPLE WHO LIKED TO INVENT THINGS HANGING OUT TOGETHER. BASICALLY, IT WAS LIKE A TOTALLY ONE-SIDED CRUSH, Y'KNOW?

"EVERY TIME HE HAD A DAY OFF, WE TOOK OUR INVENTIONS
BRIGHT'S SHOW
" AND PUT ON A FREE SHOW FOR THE LOCAL KIDS"
THEY GOT A HUGE KICK OUT OF IT, TOO!
BUT
EVER SINCE MR. B LEARNED ABOUT SHADOW LADY.. HE CHANGED
I DUNNO.. HE STARTED TO ONLY THINK ABOUT HIS JOB, AND HOW TO INCORPORATE HIS INVENTIONS INTO HIS WORK AS A POLICEMAN.
UP UNTIL THEN, HE WAS A GREAT COP--HE EVEN HAD AWARDS AND STUFF! BUT HIS INVENTIONS NEVER SEEM TO DO VERY WELL IN POLICE WORK. AND SO NOW EVERYBODY THINKS HE'S JUST A BUMBLING FOOL

THE ONLY THING HE EVEN THINKS ABOUT ANY MORE IS CAPTURING SHADOW LADY
IT'S ALL SHADOW LADY'S FAULT!
BOY.. YOU SURE PICKED A WINNER TO FALL IN LOVE WITH.
HUH ?!
B-BUT NO!
I- ER.. I'M N-NOT UMM...

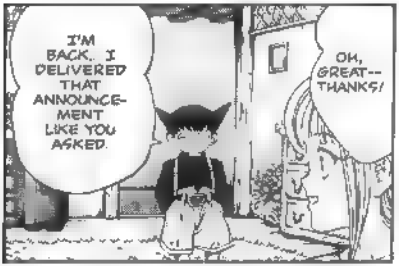
OH, COME ON--IT'S SO OBVIOUS IT'S PRACTICALLY WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE!

WELL, YOUR OPPONENT'S GOING TO BE TOUGH TO BEAT. BUT YOU HAVE TO STICK WITH IT, GIRLFRIEND!

Dingg♫ Dongg
COMING!
OH!
HI. UM. I HEARD FROM YOUR BOSS THAT SHE WAS HERE

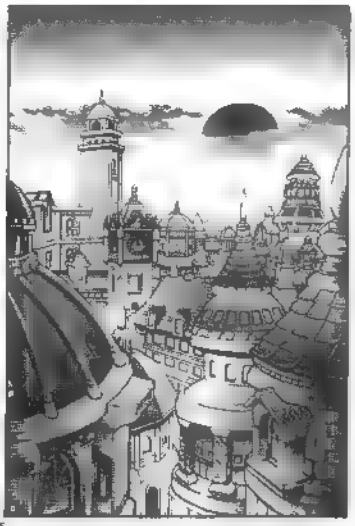
OOH, MR. B!
LOOK-- I'M STAYING OVER AT THE STATION, SO YOU CAN SLEEP AT MY PLACE TONIGHT
COOL! I GUESS I'LL SETTLE FOR THAT THIS TIME.
"THIS TIME"?
THANKS FOR THE GRUB, AIMI.
OH, YEAH, I ALMOST FORGOT--
MY NAME'S LIME HOSOKAWA

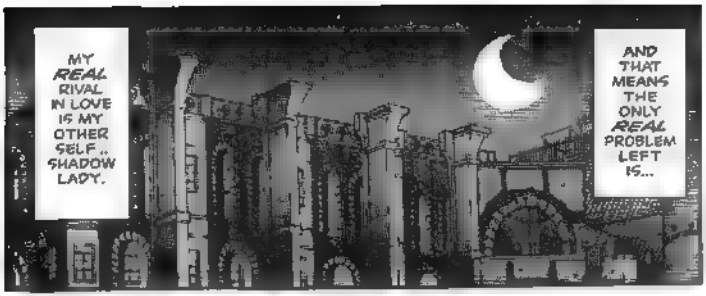
GEE NO MATTER WHAT HE SAYS, HE ALWAYS ACTS LIKE SUCH A NICE GUY
I'M KIND OF ENVIOUS OF THAT GIRL

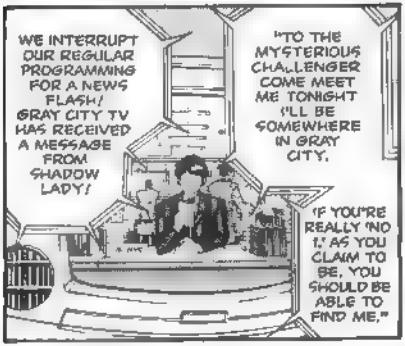

I'M BACK.. I DELIVERED THAT ANNOUNCE-MENT LIKE YOU ASKED.
OH, GREAT-- THANKS!

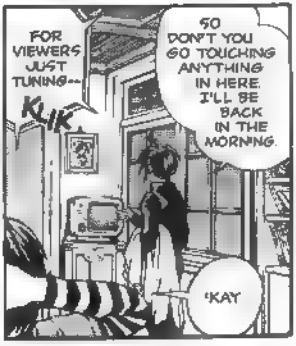
WAIT A SECOND ! FEE, FIE FO, FUM!
I SME..L THE SCENT OF A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMAN!

THAT'S RIGHT SHE JUST LEFT
I.. I HAVE A NEW FRIEND!

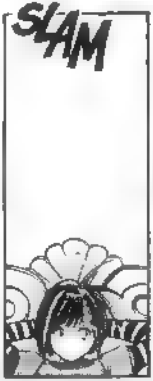


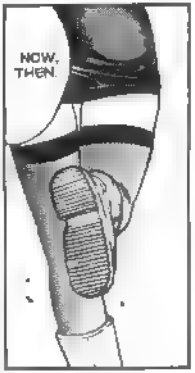

MY *REAL* RIVAL IN LOVE IS MY OTHER SELF.. SHADOW LADY.
AND THAT MEANS THE ONLY *REAL* PROBLEM LEFT IS...


WE INTERRUPT OUR REGULAR PROGRAMMING FOR A NEWS FLASH! GRAY CITY TV HAS RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM SHADOW LADY!
"TO THE MYSTERIOUS CHALLENGER COME MEET ME TONIGHT I'LL BE SOMEWHERE IN GRAY CITY.
"IF YOU'RE REALLY 'NO 1,' AS YOU CLAIM TO BE, YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND ME."


FOR VIEWERS JUST TUNING--
KLIK
SO DON'T YOU GO TOUCHING ANYTHING IN HERE. I'LL BE BACK IN THE MORNING.
'KAY

DAMN THAT SHADOW LADY! ANOTHER NIGHT OFF RUINED!
GOOD LUCK, MR. B!! SEE YA LATER!
THUD
WHMP


SLAM

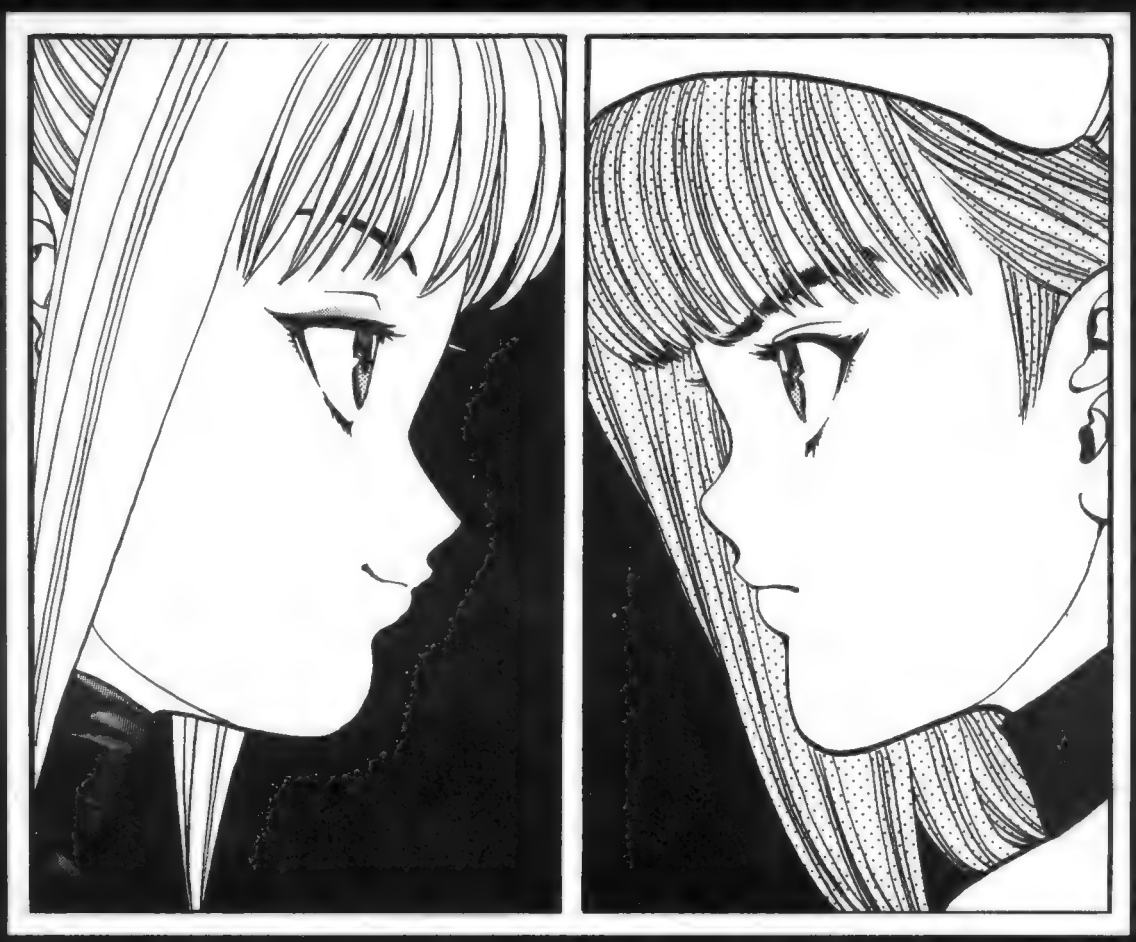

NOW, THEN.

KLIK
FSSSA
PNMP
SHIFF
KCHAK
SHAK
CHAK

FFTT
FFFSSSHHH
HAH!! I'LL SHOW THEM WHO'S NUMBER ONE IN THIS TOWN!
GO FOR IT!
WHAM

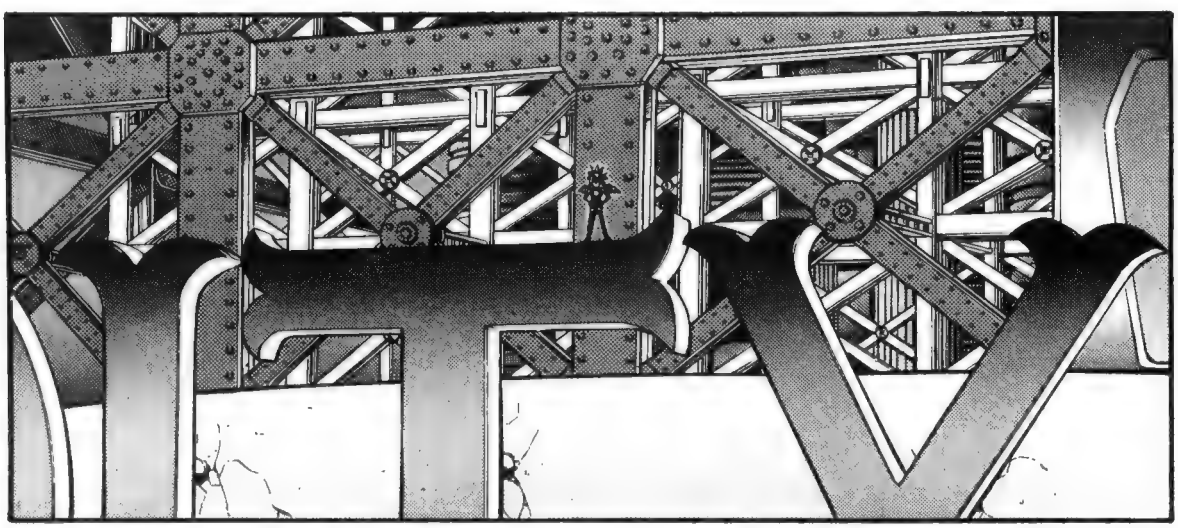
NEXT "LADY VS GIRL"..!

DARK HORSE COMICS
Manga
SHADOW LADY: THE EYES OF A STRANGER 4 OF 5
$2.50 US
$3.75 CAN
MASAKAZU KATSURA'S
SHADOW LADY
THE EYES OF A STRANGER
STUDIO PROTEUS
MASAKAZU KATSURA
DIRECT SALES
01111
7 61568 98074 5



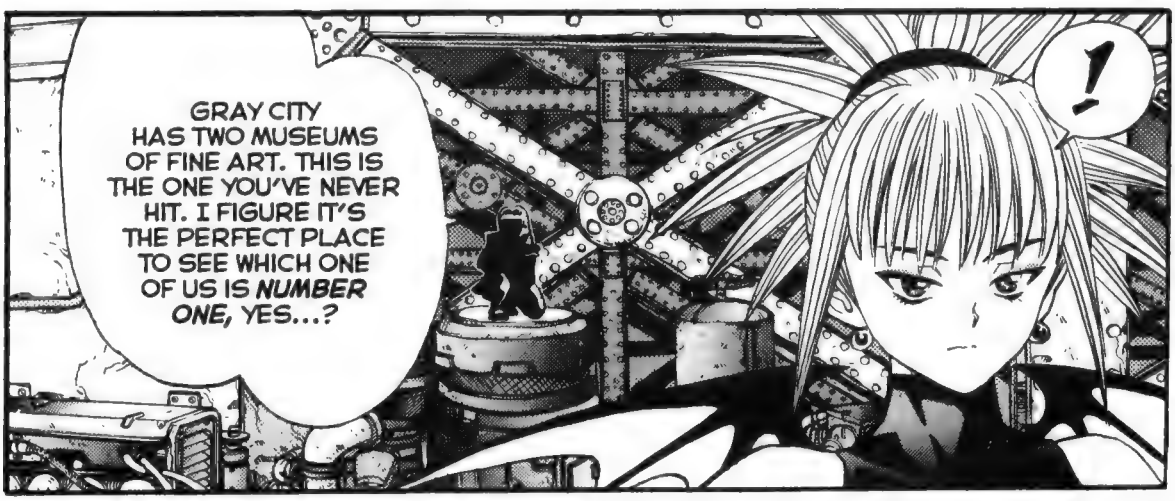
LADY VS GIRL

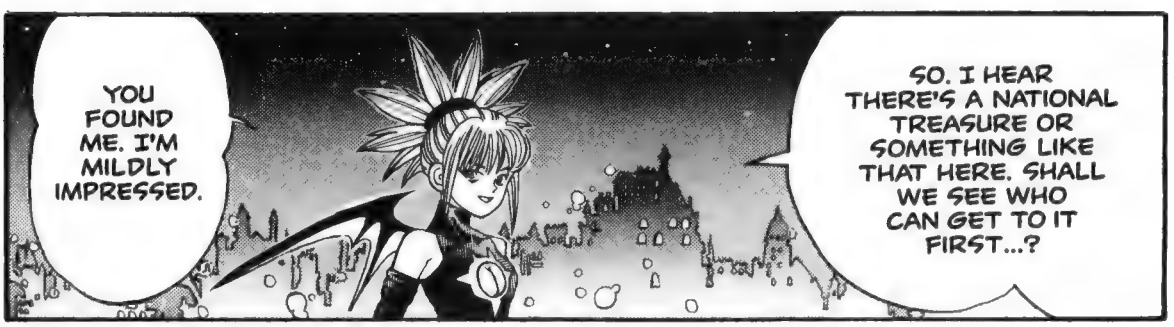
GRAY·CITY·ART·CENTER



I DUNNO, SHADOW LADY... YOU REALLY THINK THEY'RE GONNA BE ABLE TO FIND YOU *HERE*...?

I'M NOT SIMPLY BEING CAPRICIOUS, DE-MO. I HAVE MY REASONS.
IF MY SO-CALLED "RIVAL" CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT, THEN THEY WERE NEVER A REAL CHALLENGE, ANYWAY.


GRAY CITY HAS TWO MUSEUMS OF FINE ART. THIS IS THE ONE YOU'VE NEVER HIT. I FIGURE IT'S THE PERFECT PLACE TO SEE WHICH ONE OF US IS *NUMBER ONE*, YES...?
!

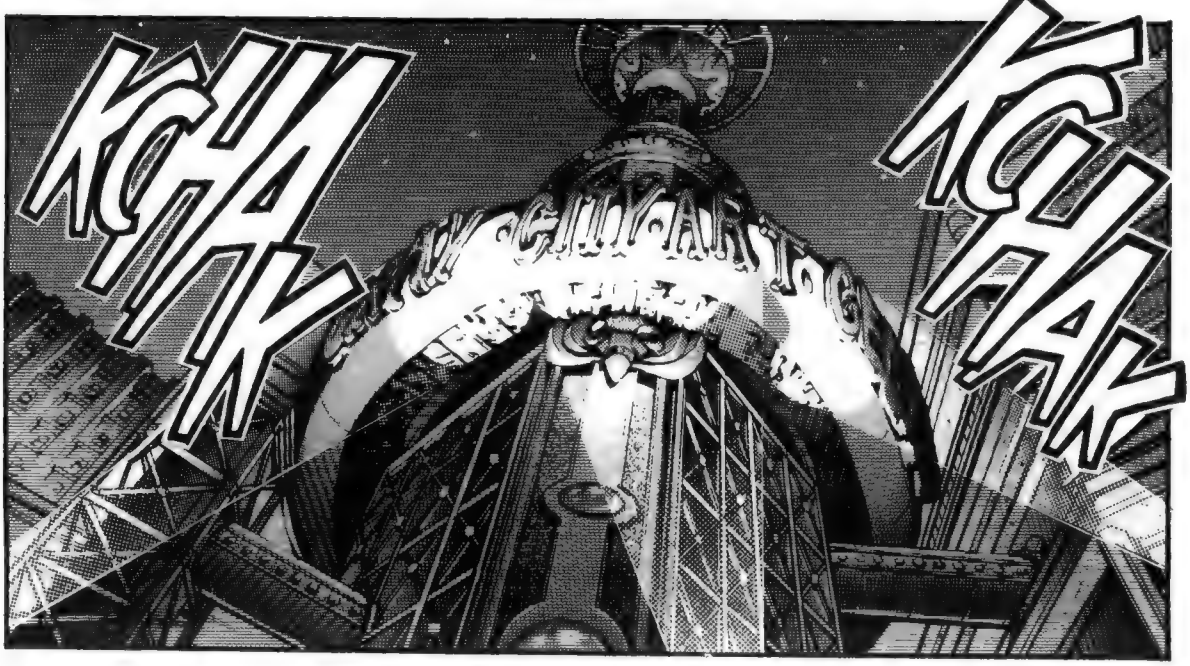

YOU FOUND ME. I'M MILDLY IMPRESSED.
SO. I HEAR THERE'S A NATIONAL TREASURE OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT HERE. SHALL WE SEE WHO CAN GET TO IT FIRST...?

HEH, HEH... THANKS, BUT *NO THANKS.* TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I'VE GOT NO INTEREST IN STEALING STUFF.
THE ONLY REASON I CLAIMED TO BE A BETTER THIEF WAS TO DRAW YOU OUT. THANKS FOR PLAYING INTO MY HAND SO EASILY!

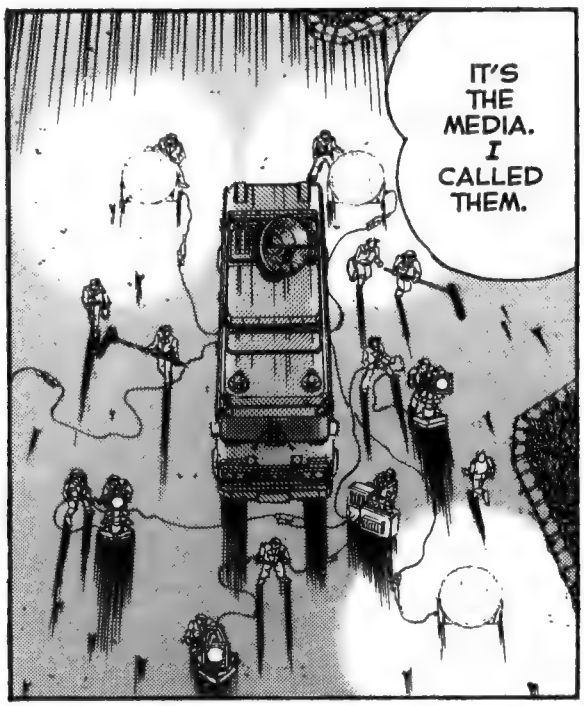
WELL, I HAVE TO CONFESS I WAS WONDERING WHAT YOU LOOKED LIKE.
I SURE DIDN'T EXPECT *SOME LOUD-MOUTHED, OBNOXIOUS LITTLE BRAT* IN A *GOOFY COSTUME.*

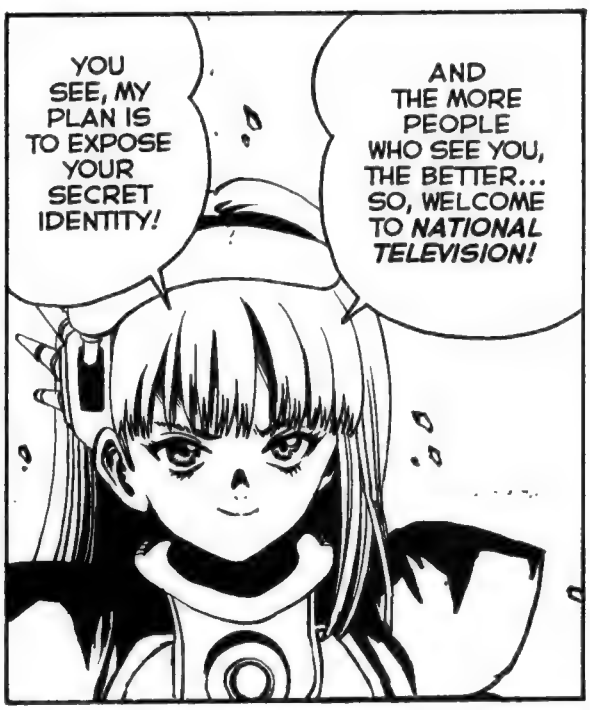
HEH, HEH...

SNAP


KCHAK
KCHAK

!?


IT'S THE MEDIA. I CALLED THEM.

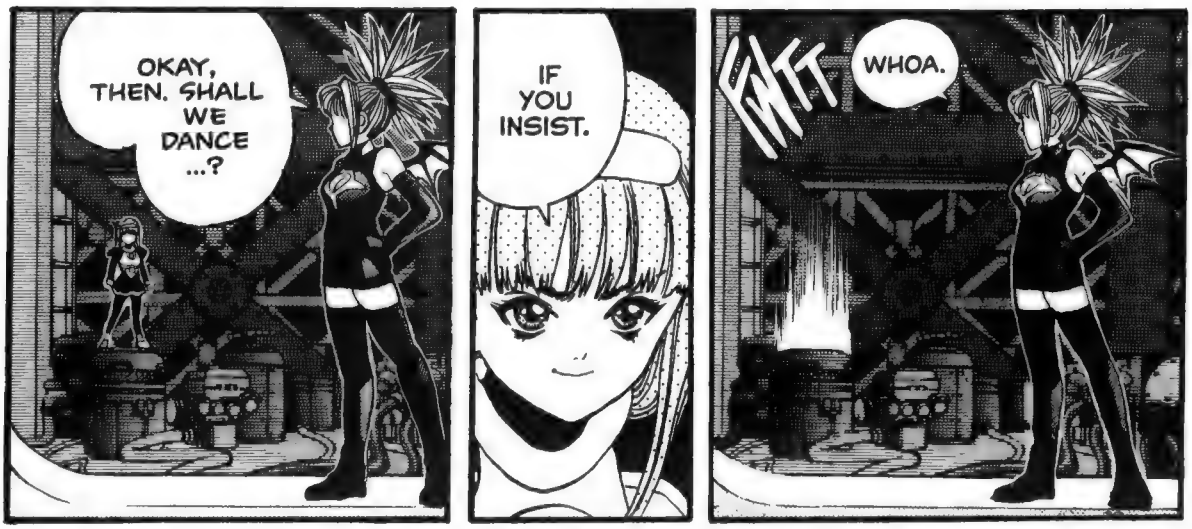

YOU SEE, MY PLAN IS TO EXPOSE YOUR SECRET IDENTITY!
AND THE MORE PEOPLE WHO SEE YOU, THE BETTER... SO, WELCOME TO *NATIONAL TELEVISION!*

HMPH... SO *THAT'S* YOUR PLAN.
AND HERE I THOUGHT WE COULD SETTLE THINGS QUIETLY. BUT THAT'S OKAY. HAVING A BIG AUDIENCE TURNS ME ON, ANYWAY!

HI, EVERYONE!
DON'T WORRY-- *EVERY SIDE* OF SHADOW LADY IS THE *GOOD SIDE!!*

YES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! AS YOU CAN CLEARLY SEE, IT'S *SHADOW LADY!* THERE'S NO MISTAKING THAT SPECIAL POSE!
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE MYSTERIOUS CHALLENGER AND SHADOW LADY IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!

WE ARE BRINGING YOU THIS EXCLUSIVE COVERAGE *LIVE* FROM THE BASE OF THE GRAY CITY ART CENTER!
WILL SHADOW LADY'S SECRET IDENTITY REALLY BE EXPOSED?! AND WHO IS THE OTHER GIRL?! *DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL!*

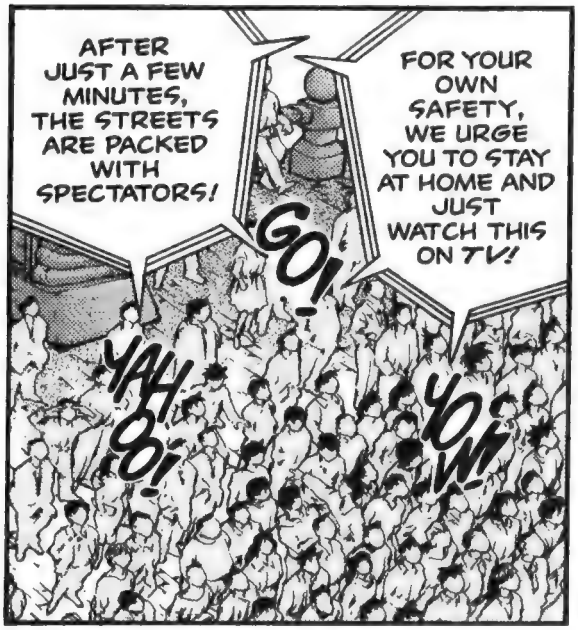

OKAY, THEN. SHALL WE DANCE ...?
IF YOU INSIST.
FWFT
WHOA.

WHIP

FWHD
WHOSH
HMM... NOT TOO BAD IN THE SPEED DEPART-MENT.
IN FACT, TOO GOOD FOR HUMAN REACTIONS!
THAP
SWHIT
KANG
?!
AH, HA... I SEE. SHE'S USING A WIRE... HMM... I GUESS I WON'T NEED TO USE ANY EXPERT CHANGES.

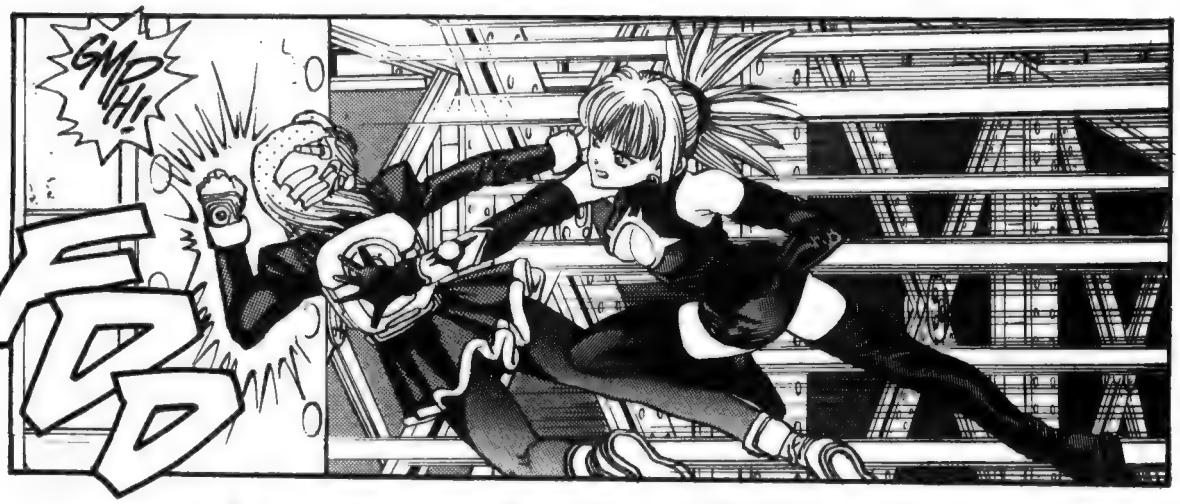
?
fft
WHSS
!
FWAP
I BET YOU CAN RUN AWAY PRETTY QUICK, TOO... HUH?
LAUGH WHILE YOU CAN, SHADOW LADY.

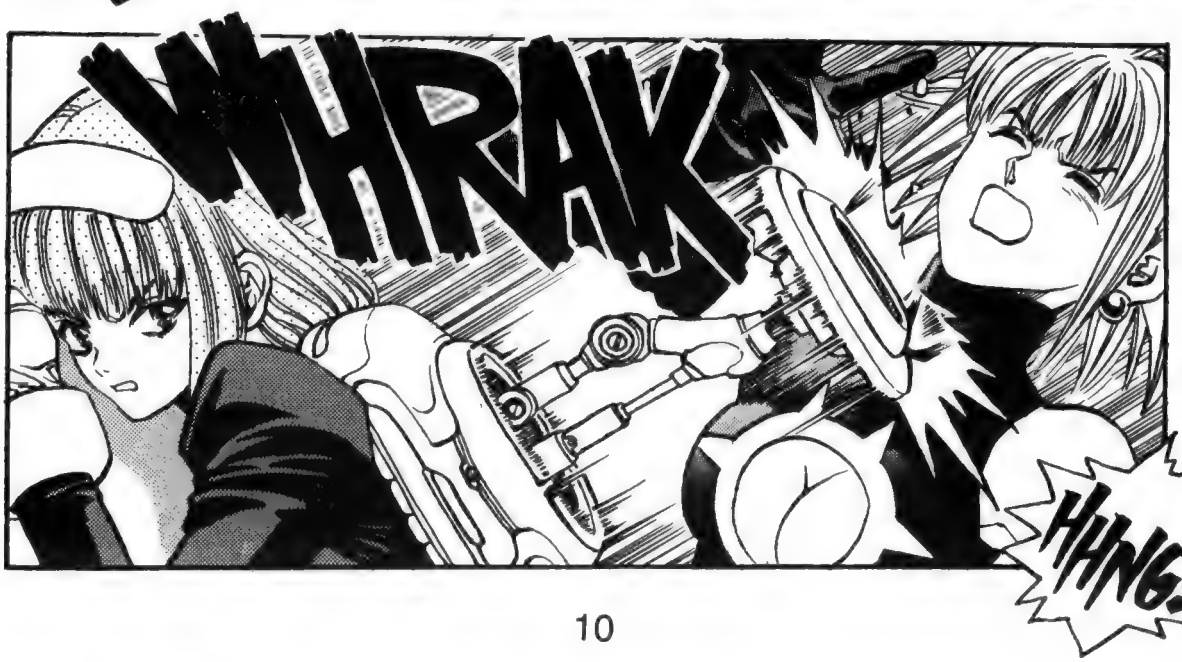
YOU SEE, I'VE DONE A LOT OF RESEARCH ON YOU...
?!
WHA-?! SHE KNOWS HOW TO REVERSE THE TRANSFOR-MATION!
FOO
!!
DAMN! SHE'S GOOD... YOU'D BETTER NOT UNDERESTIMATE HER, AIMI!
WE CAN'T SEE THE BATTLE FROM HERE! GET AROUND TO THE SIDE!
YES, SIR!
HEY, CHECK IT OUT!
THAT'S ONLY A COUPLE A' BLOCKS AWAY! LET'S GO!!


AFTER JUST A FEW MINUTES, THE STREETS ARE PACKED WITH SPECTATORS!
FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY, WE URGE YOU TO STAY AT HOME AND JUST WATCH THIS ON TV!
GO!
YAH!
GO!
YOW!

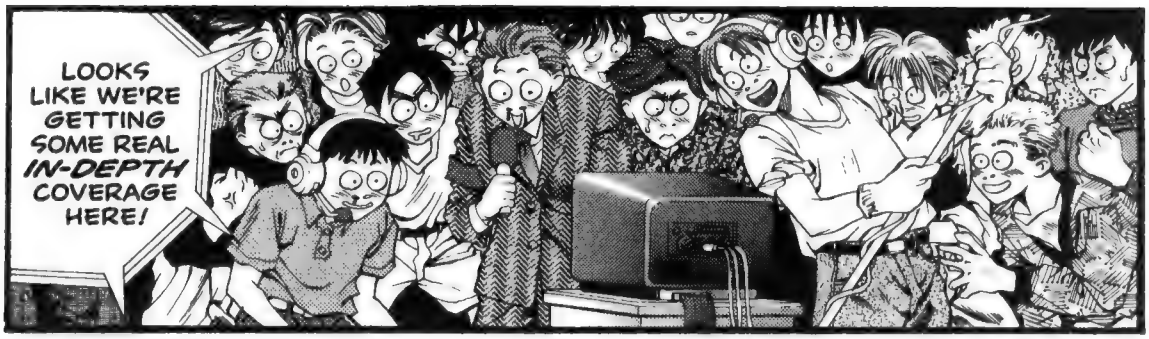
GO SHADOW LADY GO!
YEEHA!
GIVE US THE WHOLE SHOW!!

WOW... THEY'RE ACTING LIKE SHE'S SOME KIND OF MOVIE STAR!


GMPH!
FOO


WHRAK
HHNG!

ALL RIGHT! MAYBE WE CAN FINALLY GET A DECENT CLOSE-UP OF HER!
WHOA!
LOOK OUT, YOU IDIOT!!
EEEK!
FWHUDD
BLURK
BLUP
SPLT


LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GETTING SOME REAL IN-DEPTH COVERAGE HERE!

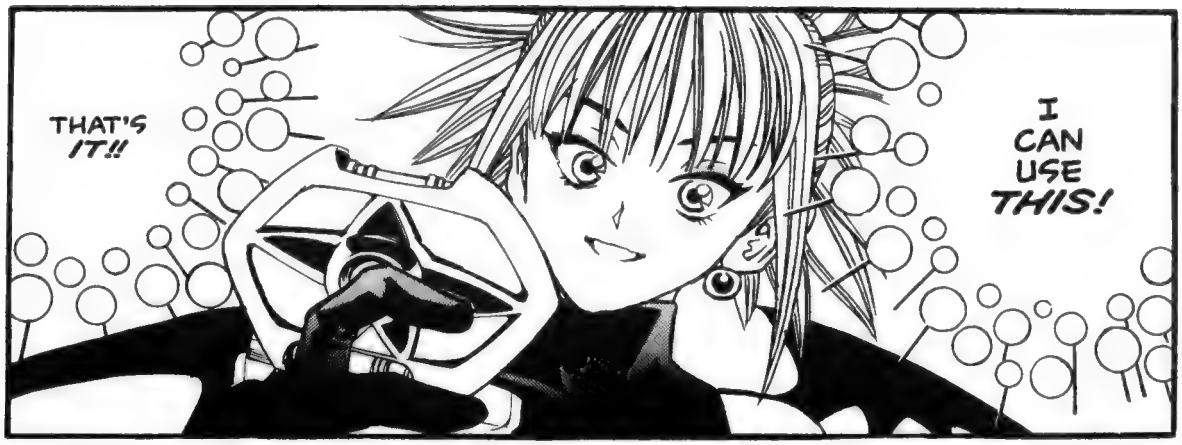
HAH! YOU THINK YOU'RE SO COOL, BUT ALL YOU EVER DO IS WIGGLE YOUR BUTT AND STEAL STUPID JUNK!
YOU'RE JUST A PUBLIC NUISANCE, THAT'S ALL!

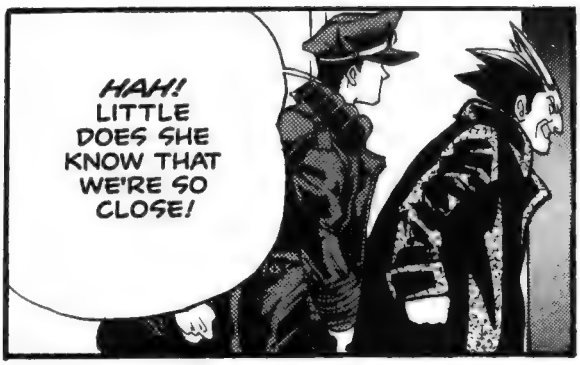
WHY DO YOU DO IT, ANY-WAY?!
WIGGLE

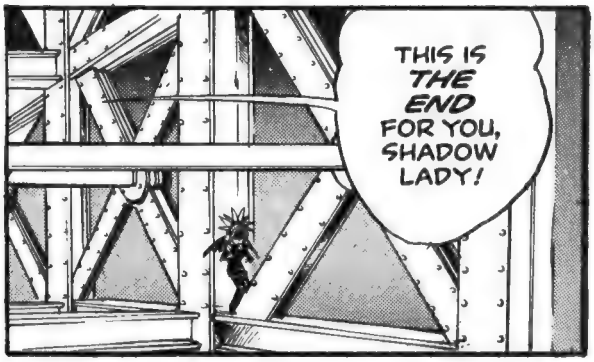
BECAUSE IT'S FUN! ISN'T THAT GOOD ENOUGH?

YOU CALL THAT A REASON?!
KNHRR
FMP
DON'T FORGET-- SHE'S THE ONE THAT STOLE MR. B'S HEART.
YOU...
YOU'RE GONNA PAY, SHADOW LADY!!
ENHSSH
EZKZAK
ELECTRO-ROD ON!
FZKRAKK
KHSSHK

GIVE IT UP!
RATS!
WHSH
AH?!
DAMN! LOST HER!
THANKS, DE-MO ...!
TMP
THIS IS GONNA BE TOUGHER THAN I THOUGHT... SHE'S SO FAST I CAN'T GET CLOSE.
IF I CAN JUST GET MY HANDS ON HER, SHE'S TOAST... BUT HOW?
!


THAT'S IT!!
I CAN USE THIS!


HAH! LITTLE DOES SHE KNOW THAT WE'RE SO CLOSE!


THIS IS THE END FOR YOU, SHADOW LADY!

HMM... TOO MUCH TROUBLE TO LOOK FOR HER. I'LL JUST FLUSH HER OUT.
THIS MAY BE A BIT EXTREME, BUT...

ELECTRO-POWER TO MAX!
CHIK CHIK
MAX
FLLK

KLIK
?!
FNHPP

WHSST
ZAKK ZAKK
ZAKK
CHOKK
ZKK
ZKK
UAAGH
ZAK ZKK FZK
G-G-
GAAH!

BOOF
BOOF
BOOF

MY NAME IS SPARK GIRL!
THE FLASH OF BRIGHT LIGHTNING THAT WILL VANQUISH THE DARK SHADOWS OF GRAY CITY!
BUT FIRST, I'M GOING TO EXPOSE THE FACE THAT'S HIDDEN UNDER THIS SHADOW!
!!
AND NOW!

NEXT: *"STRANGER"...!*

DARK HORSE COMICS

Manga!

SHADOW LADY: THE EYES OF A STRANGER 5 OF 5

$2.50 US
$3.75 CAN

MASAKAZU KATSURA'S

SHADOW LADY

E EYES OF A STRANGER

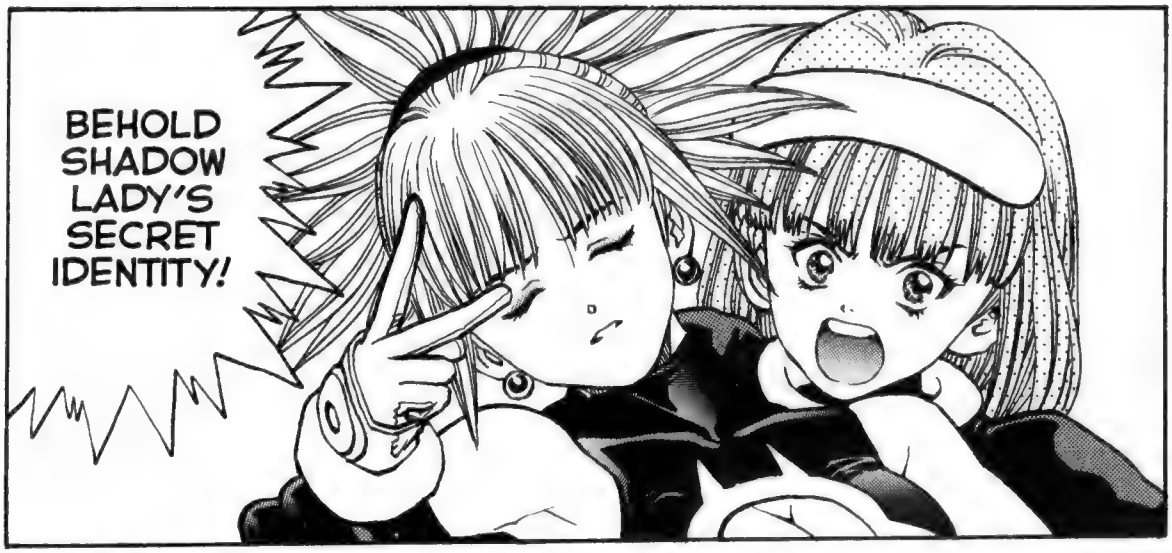
STUDIO PROTEUS

DIRECT SALES

7 61568 98074 5 01211

MASAKAZU KATSURA

STRANGER


BEHOLD SHADOW LADY'S SECRET IDENTITY!

SHKK

FSSH
FSSH
FSSH

JUST LOOK AT THAT BRILLIANT LIGHT! ARE WE ABOUT TO SEE SHADOW LADY'S TRUE FORM?!

!!

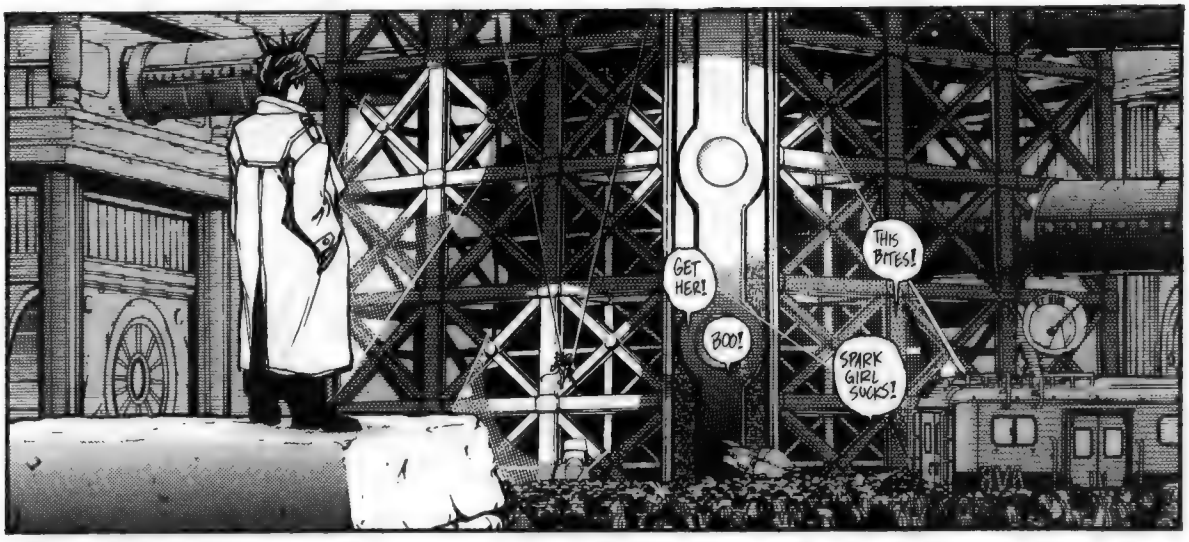
HAH!! I WIN, SHADOW LADY!
FFSSHHH

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, FOLKS, BUT WE CAN'T SEE A THING THROUGH THE THICK SMOKE!
FFHHH

WAIT!! IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S CLEARING! ANY SECOND, WE'LL SEE--

MEOW!
WH--
WHAT
?!
A...
ANOTHER
TRANSFORMATION?!
L-LADIES
AND GENTLEMEN,
I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
TO--

THAT'S NOT HER "SECRET IDENTITY" ...!
BOO!
HISS!


GET HER!
BOO!
THIS BITES!
SPARK GIRL SUCKS!

HEH... LOOKS LIKE SHADOW LADY WAS A STEP AHEAD OF HER.

MIDNIGHT BASIC (SHADOW LADY) SHADOW
CRIMSON CAT SHADOW
MIDNIGHT BASIC SHADOW
IT'S A SIMPLE MATTER OF LAYERING.
I KNEW THAT YOU KNEW HOW TO REVERSE MY TRANSFORMATION, SO I USED THAT TO MY ADVANTAGE.
AND YOU FELL RIGHT INTO MY TRAP, SPARK GIRLIE!

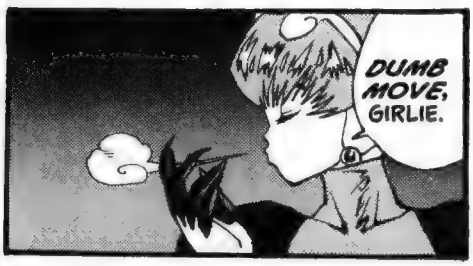
H- HOW ?!

A TRAP ?!
YOU BET! 'CAUSE IF I DIDN'T, I WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CATCH YOU!
FWAP
?!
FWIP
FWIP
FWSSH
HEY! COME BACK!
NO THANKS! AND BY THE WAY-- DON'T TRY CHASING AFTER ME! YOU'LL BE SORRY IF YOU DO...

POF
YEAH, RIGHT! AS IF!! YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN SCARE ME SO EASILY?!

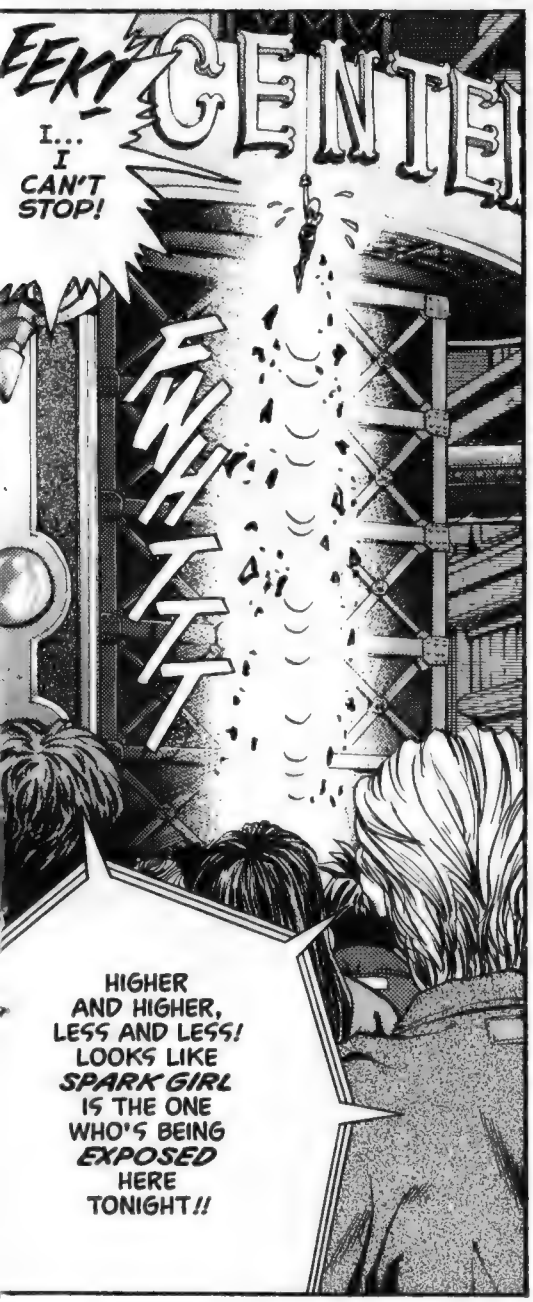
CENTER
FWWISSS
SSSHH

THAT TRICK WON'T WORK AGAIN! THIS TIME I'LL RUB OFF ALL THE LAYERS OF SHADOW!!


DUMB MOVE, GIRLIE.

SHK

WHOA!
CHECK IT OUT!!
LOOKS LIKE SHADOW LADY CUT UP SPARK GIRL'S OUTFIT, AND NOW IT'S FALLING OFF!!


EEK!
I... I CAN'T STOP!
CENTE
FWHIFF
HIGHER AND HIGHER, LESS AND LESS! LOOKS LIKE SPARK GIRL IS THE ONE WHO'S BEING EXPOSED HERE TONIGHT!!

SHKK

GAKK!
I... I'M SORRY, FOLKS, BUT WE MIGHT BE FORCED TO CENSOR OUR TRANSMISSION ANY SECOND NOW!

KCHAK
!

FHT
OH, BOY!!
EEK!
P-PLEASE!! DON'T LOOK!
DARN!
I... I MEAN THANK HEAVENS!! LOOKS LIKE SHADOW LADY ISN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS HOW TO LAYER!!

...?!
WELL? I TOLD YOU NOT TO MOVE, DIDN'T I?
RRG!
SORRY, BUT IT'S THE ONLY WAY I COULD KEEP YOU FROM USING YOUR SPEED AGAINST ME.
J-JUST YOU WAIT!! THE NEXT TIME WE MEET, I'M GONNA B-BEAT YOU FOR SURE!
I HATE THE WAY YOU JUST RUN AROUND THE CITY, CAUSING TROUBLE AND STUFF JUST FOR FUN!!
I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY WITH IT ANY MORE! I WON'T!!

COOL! IT'S A DEAL, SPARK GIRL!
YOU KNOW, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER HAD TO GET REALLY SERIOUS IN A FIGHT! FRANKLY, I CAN'T WAIT FOR MORE!
SEE YA!
BOINGG
YEE-HAW!
C'MON GIRLIE! MOVE SOME MORE!
STOP PUSHING!
HUH?
AAAUGH!
YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS, SHADOW LADY!!

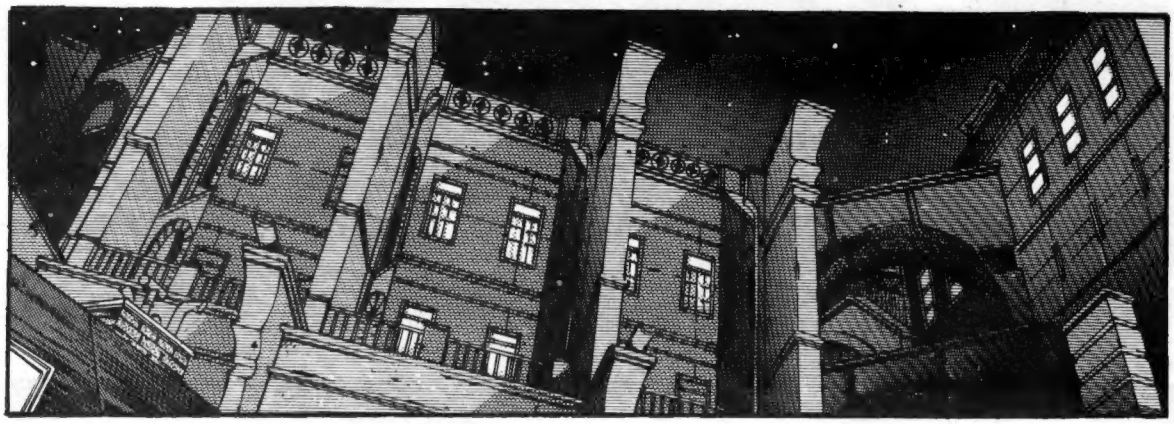
KCHIK
SKOW
PSSHT
BONK
?!
HEY?! WHAT THE--
FWSSH
FHH
FHH
FHH
FHH
FHH

KOFF
KOFF
KOFF
WHAT?
SHE... SHE'S GONE!
AARGH! WHAT A RIP-OFF!! THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, MAN!
HUH? ME?! B-B-BUT...!
I THOUGHT IT WAS YOU... LIME.

YOU WERE USING A VOICE CHANGER SO NO ONE COULD IDENTIFY YOU, RIGHT?
....
YOU BETTER PROMISE ME THAT YOU WON'T DO ANYTHING THIS DUMB AGAIN.
I REFUSE.
....
....
...!
LISTEN, YOU... I'M GOING TO BE THE ONE TO CAPTURE SHADOW LADY!
HAH!
YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN?!
HAVE YOU EVER COME SO CLOSE TO CATCHING HER?! WELL?!
I'M SORRY, MR. B-- BUT I DON'T THINK YOU CAN DO IT.

BECAUSE YOU'RE TOO NICE!! YOU'RE JUST TOO DAMN NICE, MR. B. I MEAN... FALLING IN LOVE WITH HER?! HAH!
YOU'LL NEVER CATCH SHADOW LADY AS LONG AS YOU HAVE SUCH AMBIVALENT FEELINGS TOWARDS HER IN YOUR HEART!
I WAS GOING TO REVEAL HER IDENTITY AND STEAL HER POWERS!
THEN I WAS GOING TO USE THEM FOR GOOD, THE WAY YOU WANT HER TO USE THEM!
FWAP
THAT IS WHAT YOU WANT, ISN'T IT?! WELL, ISN'T IT?!
BUT DOES IT HAVE TO BE SHADOW LADY?! CAN'T IT BE ME?
WELL?!

LIME, I... ....
SHHH
SSS
WHEW ...!
THAT WAS A LITTLE CLOSE FOR COMFORT!
"SPARK GIRL," HUH...



DE-MO? I'M BACK! DE-MO...? YOU'RE HOME, AREN'T YOU?
DARN IT! DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO LOCK THE DOOR? IT'S NOT SAFE TO LEAVE IT OPEN!
SLAM

HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO--

HEH HEH

ER... IF YOU DON'T MIND... WHO ARE YOU?
HEH HEH

FFT
WHY, HELLO THERE.
DON'T WORRY-- WE'RE NOT HERE FOR MUCH.

FFT
MMPH!
MNGF!
DE-
MO!
WH... WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
OUR APOLOGIES FOR THE INTRUSION, BUT I ASSURE YOU, IT ISN'T REALLY SUCH A BIG DEAL.
WE'LL LEAVE QUIETLY AS SOON AS WE'VE TAKEN WHAT WE CAME FOR, MY DEAR. YOUR LIFE.
WH-- WHAT?!

NEXT: A NEW SERIES--"THE AWAKENING"...!